within the existing ceiling of 5652 Projects. This position has been intimated to all the States, including Maharashtra.

Optional use of fund for women and child welfare

1165. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to develop an effective mechanism to ensure that the allocated sum for women and child welfare is spent optimally; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA): (a) and (b)The Department of Women and Child Development ensures optimal utilization of funds released under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes through monitoring of physical progress reports and financial utilization details obtained from the State Governments.

In respect of central sector grants-in-aid schemes, Scheme Guidelines prescribe the parameters for the approval of projects. Projects are taken up for consideration only after they are duly recommended by the State Empowered Committees constituted for the purpose. Projects are thereafter scrutinized by the members of the Project Sanctioning Committee before they are approved. The scheme guidelines provide for monitoring and submission of periodical progress reports, by their supervisory agencies, such as the State Women's Development Corporations. Second and subsequent instalments are released only after receipt of utilization certificates for the previous releases.

Permission for professional institutions

†1166.SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that permission has been granted to start several professional institutions during the last five years;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.